

Two-step photoconductivity in $\text{LiY}_x\text{Lu}_{1-x}\text{F}_4\text{:Ce,Yb}$ crystals

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Abstract

© 2016, Pleiades Publishing, Ltd. Photoconductivity of $\text{LiY}_x\text{Lu}_{1-x}\text{F}_4\text{:Ce,Yb}$ ($x = 0-1$) crystals is measured under one- and two-step excitation. It is established that the photoconductivity is due to intra-center transitions from excited states of Ce^{3+} ions. The position of the ground 4 f-state of Ce^{3+} ion relative to the bottom of the conduction band is determined. The choice of pumping conditions to obtain the lasing on the 5d-4f transitions of trivalent cerium in these active media is substantiated.

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